

1/ Subjunctive + **ἄν** when the *present time* is referred to (present indicative in the main clause):

- οἱ παῖδες χαίρονται **ὅταν** τὸν πατέρα **ὀρῶσιν** THE CHILDREN ARE HAPPY WHENEVER THEY SEE THEIR FATHER
 ✦ **ὀρῶσιν** is in subjunctive here.
- οἱ μαθηταὶ πολλὰ μανθάνουσιν **ὁπότεν** (= **ὅταν**) τοῦ διδασκάλου **ἀκούουσιν** THE STUDENTS LEARN A LOT WHENEVER THEY LISTEN TO THE TEACHER.
- φεύγω, **ὅταν ἴδω** αὐτό I FLEE WHENEVER I SEE THIS (Lucian, *Dialogues of the Gods*).
- **ὅταν** τι **δρῶς** ἐς κέρδος, οὐκ ὀκνεῖν πρέπει WHENEVER YOU LOOK FOR THE ADVANTAGE, YOU MUST NOT HESITATE (Sophocles, *Philoctetes*).

2/ Subjunctive + **ἄν** when the *future time* is referred to (future indicative in the main clause):

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- **ἐπειδὴν** εἰς τὴν Ἑλλάδα **πορεύομαι**, δῶρά σοι οἴσομαι WHENEVER I GO TO GREECE, I WILL BRING YOU PRESENTS.

The possibility of the repeated action in the future is very relative, this sentence simply means WHENEVER I GO..., maybe only once, if at all! It could also be translated as EVERY TIME I GO..., but the sense of repeated action cannot be expressed since it has not yet taken place.

- **ἐπειδὴν** μέντοι τοῦτο **γένηται**, ἡγησόμεθα WHENEVER THIS HAPPENS, WE WILL LEAD (Xenophon, *Hellenicā*).

3/ Optative without **ἄν** when the *past time* is referred to (imperfect in the main clause, since this action took place several times):

- οἱ παῖδες ἐχαίροντο **ὅτε** τὸν πατέρα **ὀρῶεν** THE CHILDREN WERE HAPPY WHENEVER THEY SAW THEIR FATHER.
- οἱ μαθηταὶ πολλὰ ἐμάνθανον **ὁπότε** (= **ὅτε**) τοῦ διδασκάλου **ἀκούοιεν** THE STUDENTS LEARNED A LOT WHENEVER THEY LISTENED TO THE TEACHER.
- **ἐπειδὴ** δὲ **ἔλθοιμεν** εἰς τι καταγώγιον, ... WHENEVER WE ARRIVED AT AN INN, ... (Lucian, *Philopseudeis*).

b) Indefinite constructions of single action

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These sentences are almost equivalent to the former constructions of repeated action, with the only difference that, rather than emphasising the repetition of the action, they focus on an indefinite aspect (author, object, etc.) of a single action. The relative (usually, the indefinite **ὅστις** WHOEVER) can also be used in this indefinite sense.

1/ Referring to the present: indefinite clause in subjunctive + **ἄν**

- σοφός ἐστιν **ὅστις ἄν** τὴν φιλοσοφίαν **μανθάνῃ** WHOEVER LEARNS PHILOSOPHY IS WISE.

Observe that if the sentence had been σοφός ἐστιν **ὃς** τὴν φιλοσοφίαν **μανθάνει**, it would identify a definite person performing the action; therefore, by using the indefinite relative and subjunctive + **ἄν**, the indefinite meaning of WHOEVER is conveyed. Another example:

- **ὃ** μὲν **ἄν** πάντες οἱ θεοὶ **μισῶσιν** ἀνόσιόν ἐστιν, **ὃ** δ' **ἄν** **φιλῶσιν**, ὅσιον WHATEVER ALL THE GODS HATE IS UNHOLY, AND WHATEVER THEY LOVE, HOLY (Plato, *Euthyphro*).